

# The Overseas Press

# BULLETIN

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA  
35 EAST 39TH STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK



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February 25, 1961

## JOT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR



**Mon., Feb. 27 - Special Cocktail Party for Members to View New Building at 54-56 W. 40th St:** Members are advised to check hats & coats in lobby downstairs (no tipping). Take lobby elevators at right, up to 10th floor lounge where you will be notified as to where and how the tours of the quarters will be made. Member and one guest. Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m. Those who wish to come earlier may meet at 5:30. Reservations, please.

**Tues., Feb. 28 - Open House: 'Famine, Crises and Communism in the Orient' - with Pierce Gerety, just back from Hong Kong, India, etc., for Internat'l Rescue Committee. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Reservations, please. (See page 3)**

**Fri., March 10 - Reception & 'Meet the Press' Interview for high school delegates of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Time: 4:00 p.m.**

## 'MISS OTIS REGRETS'...

Due to the press of business, the officers and trustees of the OPC Correspondents Fund were omitted from the members' invitations to the Annual Awards Dinner. The names, which will be included on the invitations to the general public, are as follows:

Richard de Rochement, president; Edward W. Barrett, Emanuel Freedman and Oliver Gramling, vice presidents; Joseph J. Wurzel, treasurer; Egbert White, assistant treasurer; Dickson Hartwell, secretary, and Patricia L. Hartwell, assistant secretary. Trustees are: John M. Barkham, Clyde E. Brown, John Daly, Ralph J. Frantz, William P. Gray, Sanford Griffith, Mary Hornaday, Thomas M. Johnson, Lucian S. Kirtland, Lawrence Le Sueur, Louis P. Lochner, A. Wilfred May, Inez Robb, Walter Rundle, Bruno Shaw, and John Wilhelm. Apologies also to Madeline D. Ross, member of the Annual Awards Driver Committee.

Our apologies also to Madeline D. Ross, Annual Awards Dinner Committee member.

## Demonstrators Give UN Press Corps Rough Time When Gallery Boils Over

From the inside looking out, the Ash Wednesday rioting in the Security Council chamber at the United Nations presented some "fishy" aspects to regulars among the press corps there. It also gave all elements of the press the roughest going they had experienced in some time.

As demonstrators mixed with UN security guards intent on expelling them, close quarters and the instinct of newsmen and women to get as near as possible to the action inevitably put some correspondents within easy reach of flailing fists, as well as several rather ugly weapons of the type usually associated with gangs of juvenile delinquents. Among more than a score of persons who endured painful though minor injuries, two photographers had to be assisted from the scene — one of them after being knocked senseless.

Stanley Hall of the *New York Mirror*

suffered a light concussion from a blow that landed behind his right ear, and was "hors de combat" within minutes after the uproar began. Joel Landau, cameraman for UPI, was cut on the scalp, having been struck by some heavy metal object.

Various other correspondents were pummeled and pushed about as the fighting continued for some time in the Council chamber, in the corridors on both the second and third floors outside the chamber, and into the Secretariat building on both levels.

An unusually heavy influx of visitors that day complicated the situation further for the security guards trying to subdue the more violent of the demonstrators. The wrestling, shouting, scuffling knots burst from the spectators' gallery on the third floor into the astonished midst of several tourist parties of 20

(Continued on page 5)



United Nations security guards, aided by UPI photographer Joel Landau (second from left), hustle a demonstrator from the Security Council chamber.

# Overseas Ticker



.....Edited by CHARLES KLENSCH.....

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## MOSCOW.....from ALINE MOSBY

**Henry Shapiro**, UPI buochief, back in Moscow after collecting a trophy for 1960 news coverage at USC. Scribes at the Central Tgf Ofc quipped that the trophy, in the form of the USC Trojan, looks like Shapiro, sword drawn, approaching the Censor....**Robert Korengold**, UPI, investigating food and girls — both difficult to acquire here — while on vacation in Switzerland....

**Marvin Kalb**, CBS, and **Jack Chancellor**, NBC, back from yearend shows in NYC....**Helen Lambert**, wife of NYHer-Trib corr Tom Lambert, staged a one-woman art show on the squash court of the Indian Emb — believed the 1st time a westerner has exhibited paintings of Moscow here. Helen's impressions of Russian churches and snow-covered cabins brought her high praise, a sell-out and an offer for a London showing.

## ROME.....from GEORGE WELLER

Whatever you hear around the OPC about this ChiDlyNews corr's being moved from Cyprus to Rome, the real reason is NOT — repeat NOT — to escape the wrath of the Cypriots. Nevertheless, it seemed best to be in England when 'Second Saint of Cyprus'\* was given its world premier — not all my Cypriot neighbors laid their pistols down.

\* \* \*

\*Weller's play, 'Second Saint of Cyprus,' won the Best Original Play competition of the Crescent Theater in Birmingham, England, and was premiered there Jan 29.

The 3 top Brit dailies — the Manch-Guard, the LonTimes, the LonDlyTgf—applauded. The ManchGuard plot summary:

'The "second saint" is a police supt's pistol, which has replaced an ikon of St Barnabas on the policeman's wall. The supt is a Greek Cypriot married to an Englishwoman. Their student-son is dragged dewy-eyed into the orbit of the EOKA. The evil genius is a schoolteacher playing a slimy game of political intrigue with the boy, his sweetheart and the desperate father. It is a saga of age and youth in political travail.'

How the critics saw it:

ManchGuard—'The play is no world-beater — in places it talks too much, in others its action is labored — but it is graphic, timely and honest.'

LonTimes—'The play is an old-fashioned piece of strong drama, but — within its limits and in spite of a few slow patches — it offers a sound and gripping evening's theater. If it seems sometimes a little melodramatic, a trifle improbable

when one comes to it braced by a chill English evening, the events which occasioned it were sometimes pretty melodramatic and improbable, too. Where it matters, Weller's play has the ring of truth.'

LonDlyTgf—'Weller, as a fgn corr, knows his Cyprus well and writes with authenticity. He is less sure of his stage mechanics — exits and entrances, development of character. But it makes a lively evening.'

## OTTAWA.....from Editor & Publisher

Canada's often-expressed resentment abuut their unrequited interest in the U.S. was put in sharper focus recently by the phrase-turning chairman of Canada's Royal Commission on Publications, Ottawa Jnl pres Grattan O'Leary.

He noted that Canadians 'almost have to have quintuplets to get into print in the U.S.' and added wryly:

'While we are a robust people, this isn't a commonplace accomplishment.'

## WASHINGTON.from JESSIE STEARNS

Financial columnist Sylvia Porter, speaking at an American Red Cross lunch here, revealed her hobby: 'collecting money.'...**Robert E. Thompson**, NYNews, has been elected chrmn of the Standing Committee of the House/Senate press galleries....The Congressional periodical press gallery reelected George Culen, BNA Publications, as chrmn.

## BAIRES.....from SAM SUMMERLIN

AP's **Brian Bell** and his family sailed from the balmy Argentine summer for the frozen North for homeleave and reassignment ....AP's **William Ryan** flew here after winding up the hectic Santa Maria drama, interviewing Frondizi and other major figures for his LatAm series....

**Bill McCall**, UPI veep for LatAm, and UPI news ed **William Horsey** flew back to their Buenos Aires hqs after visits to Brazil....**David Belnap** has returned to duty from homeleave....**Joe Taylor** has joined UPI here....

The summer lull was broken by the 'Food for Peace' mission headed by George McGovern and Prof Arthur Schlesinger jr, both of whom discussed LatAm problem with BAires presscorps — including Bill MacCall; William Ryan; **Dave Richardson**, USN&WR; Juan de Onis NYTimes; Frank White, TimeLife-NYC (who is here on tour), and this AP corr.

Editor This Week: Herb Coleman

Bulletin Committee Chairmen:

Donald Wayne, Jess Gorkin

Managing Editor: Lucille G. Pierlot

# Portugal Expels Correspondents

Four foreign correspondents were expelled from Luanda, Angola, after the provincial government charged them with "disrespect."

The ousters followed a so-called disorderly incident between the reporters and Col. Francisco Lucena, director of the government's Office for Information and Tourism.

Men ordered to leave the country were Daniel McGeachy, *Daily Express* of London; George Clay and Raymond Wilson, British citizens working for the National Broadcasting Co., and Ernest Christie, South African employed by London's Independent Television Network.

The alleged incident took place when the reporters called on the colonel's office to get information on Charles Brown, a British journalist who had been shot earlier in the day by a Portuguese army officer. The government called the shooting an accident.

The regime has been sensitive to reporters ever since the Portuguese liner *Santa Maria* was seized by anti-Salazar elements on Jan. 22.

## TIMES, GUARDIAN TOP PUBLISHERS' SURVEY

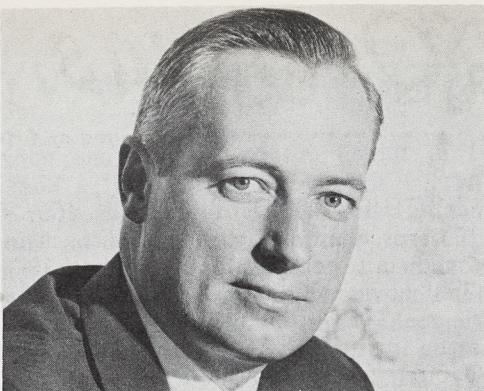
*The New York Times* was rated as top U.S. newspaper, and the *Manchester Guardian* as tops among foreign dailies, in a survey taken among publishers of English language dailies and Sunday papers.

The survey results, announced this week, grouped in its top ten the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Milwaukee Journal*, *Louisville Courier-Journal*, *New York Herald-Tribune*, *Washington Post* and *Times-Herald*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Kansas City Star*.

Behind the *Guardian*, in the Edward L. Bernays survey, were the *London Times*, *La Prensa* (Buenos Aires), *Toronto Star*, *London Telegraph*, *Le Monde*, *Mainichi*, *Le Figaro*, *London Observer*, and *France-Soir*.

## AMONG THE MISSING?

The OPC WHO'S WHO is nearing press time. Get your questionnaire in or, if you have no changes, paste your old entry on a card and mail it to the WHO'S WHO committee. It's a case of either speak up now or forever hold your peace about your listing.



Pierce Gerety

## GERETY TO TALK ON FAR EAST REFUGEES

Pierce Gerety, former Director of the Refugee and Migrations Division of the Department of State, will discuss "Famine, Crises and Communism in the Orient," at an OPC Open House Tuesday evening, Feb. 28.

Gerety returns this week from a tour of Hong Kong, Formosa and India, where he observed refugee and food problems in his new capacity as Chairman of the Far East Refugee Program of the International Rescue Committee. Widely known for his work in this field, he is also a Director of the U.S. Committee for Refugees.

A second guest, also on Tuesday evening, will be John Richardson, Jr., President of the International Rescue Committee and a director of the Foreign Policy Association. Mr. Richardson accompanied Mr. Gerety to Hong Kong, but also visited Quemoy and Japan as part of his trip.

## OPC Gallery Features Wall Street and \$\$\$

Opening Mon., Feb. 27, 5:00 p.m. in the OPC bar and stairway gallery is a photographic exhibition based on 'Money, Money, Money: Wall Street in Words and Pictures' by Ralph G. Martin and Morton D. Stone, published by Rand McNally & Co.

The pictures, by photographers Elliott Erwitt, Marvin Newman, Dick Hanley, etc., are drawn from the book which contains more than 300 photographs on the Wall Street area, its special atmosphere, operation and meaning.

The captions accompanying the pictures are taken from the 20,000-word book text. Part of the introduction also is reproduced.

Martin has written several books, among them 'The Human Side of F.D.R.' and 'Front Runner, Dark Horse.' Stone is a picture specialist on the news staff of the *NY Times*.

## Few Seats Left On OPC's Charter Flight . . . Hurry

Chairman of the Charter Flight Committee Madeline D. Ross reports that reservations have been going "just fine" and that another pleasant event was in store for the lucky Charter Fliers. A cocktail party and round-up with London members will be held in that city either Fri., June 16th or Sat., the 17th, a day before members are due to return to New York.

OPCer Russell F. Anderson wrote a cordial letter to Madeline and said he would arrange the party with the willing help of Jay Axelbank, Fred Tupper and Herb Coleman. Russ also thought pulling the London OPCers together (some 39) might afford the nucleus of an OPC Chapter there.

"I hear from many reliable sources that hotel reservations are getting tight," Madeline advised, "and I urge all those who are on this flight to make their reservations at once, if they have not already done so."

Recapitulation: OPC'S first Charter Flight — leaving New York, Friday May 19th (hour undetermined at this time) — returning from London — Sunday, June 18th via Pan Am DC7C. \$275 round trip — full amount due with reservations. Make check out to OPC — Charter Travel.

## March Regional Dinner Features Le Bourbonnais

The Regional Dinner for March will be nominally a Vichy night, although the menu will be based on the specialties of the ancient surrounding province of Le Bourbonnais. Reservations (member and one guest) will be accepted as soon as the exact date is announced, probably next week.

There will be no Regional Dinner in April, which is "moving month." The May Regional dinner, first in the new quarters, will be a French West Indies night, with specialties of Martinique and Guadeloupe, from rum to *poulet aux bananes*.

## Want To Suggest?

There is a box in the Club lobby for any suggestions you would like to make on the new building which you will be viewing Monday evening, Feb. 27. Your Planning Committee for the new quarters wants some really practical ideas.

## 'FOOT-NOTE'

Gent with one U.S. foot rubber, size 11, and one Paracord foot rubber, size 10½, would like to meet same in OPC cloak room.

Jack Woods

## Slow Burn At Gitmo--

# GAL REPORTER BUCKS NAVY RED TAPE

by Betty Reef

"Take your bathing suit," said the relaxed young Navy lieutenant when I asked what I'd need for Guantanamo.

This turned out to be the one thing I could have left at home. I used it once, for half an hour, on the day of my departure, so it wouldn't be a total loss and so I could bring sunburn back to New York. You can collect a burn fast in Southeastern Cuba at high noon.

When WNS first applied for my Defense Dept. credentials, we were informed that I'd need a security clearance which takes up to six weeks to complete. However, if we had a specific date in mind for my Guantanamo visit, the Defense Dept. would hasten matters and get it done maybe in three weeks or so, they said. They were glad to learn that I'd had a full security clearance as a correspondent for USIA; this would further expedite matters.

### Phone Calls

Fourteen long distance calls (made by me) and nine weeks later, that "expedited clearance" came through. Reason? Well, the nice young lady in charge explained, there were snow storms in Washington, then there was Christmas, and so on and on.

When my Navy Dept. orders were ready, I was asked to pick them up at the Church Street offices in downtown Manhattan. Couldn't they be mailed, to me I pleaded? I was bogged down in a mass of last-minute work before leaving town. Every minute counted. "Nope. You have to sign some papers. They'll be ready for you — won't take more than 10 minutes."

I arrived, but the lieutenant handling my orders was out on an emergency call. His stand-in never heard of me, couldn't find any orders, asked me pleasantly to sit down and have a cigarette. An hour went by. Queried by phone, Lt. Havran said to look in the file of papers on the left of his desk, underneath, in the drawer, on the right, in the briefcase, etc. The briefcase was locked and the orders were nowhere else to be found.

### Handling a War

"Good Lord," I cried, "if you fellows can't coordinate your activities on a simple matter like my orders, how in hell would you handle a war?"

"Well, mam," came the snappy reply, "we'd shoot first and do our commachasing later."

"I think you'd shoot first — and then find out what you shot at!" I said.

They fixed up a new set of orders.

This turned out to be only one copy; later I was to learn that half a dozen copies were needed to be presented at different points along my route. Then I signed a censorship form "to prevent involuntary violations of the National Espionage Act." I promised, if requested, to clear everything with the commanding officer of ship, activity, the commander of the Western Sea Frontier, the Eastern Sea Frontier, the commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet, the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the Navy's Chief of Information.

### No Censorship

This form was never again referred to. I don't know why it is required, as GITMO'S able PIO, Lt. Commander Jim Lloyd's first words were, "We give you a free hand — there's no censorship here."

The Marine cargo plane to GITMO left from Cherry Point, N.C., an awkward place to reach except by car. Cab, train and a 3 a.m. bus (for which I had to wait up all night) got me to the Marine Base barely in time for the plane.

On the frozen field we were drilled in the procedure for ditching the plane. We put on our parachutes and harnesses. Inside the plane we all put on heavy "Mae Wests."

In the bucket seat, I could barely sit upright under the weight as I strapped my 2-pound seat belt.

The roar was head-splitting and the vibration unbelievable. "Don't complain. This is the life of a war correspondent," I tried to console myself. But I'm no war correspondent, especially in peacetime. I'm a pampered, soft-living city girl with aging brittle bones.

### Bucket Seats

Less than half an hour out, the plane was on fire, smoke streaming in from the tail area. Marine aviation mechanics in bright orange overalls clambered up and down the plane's interior scaffolding, frantically opening flaps and seeking the trouble. I looked around, hoping for another scared face or a smile of sympathy. Nothing. These boys all kept a mighty stiff upper lip.

The plane turned around and went back to Cherry Point, after a short announcement about ditching procedures.

The flight next day took 12 hours, at an airspeed of 120 miles an hour as our tub full of cargo chugged through the sky.

GITMO is a far prettier place than I had imagined — a huge spread of gentle hills, and cultivated tropical foliage. Gun emplacements and defenses are almost nowhere to be seen among the



Betty Reef

OPCer Betty Reef spent a week at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo, Cuba, and is writing a series of articles for Women's News Service, which she joined in April, 1957. During years she lived abroad, Miss Reef contributed articles to Frankfurter Illustrerte, Realites, and Stars and Stripes. In the U.S., she has written for Vogue, Pageant and Life.

clusters of buildings which fan off from Sherman Avenue, the base's Main Street. The Administration building has a couple of white-washed cannons on either side of a flowering bush and an unexploded shell from the Spanish-American War mounted in the lobby. In front of the library stands a cannon whose long muzzle droops. The folks here consider it a symbol of their relaxed attitude in the face of Fidel Castro's threats to take over the base.

Male correspondents stay in the Bachelor Officers Quarters, have plenty of talkative company and a handy bar and restaurant. They pay about a dollar a night for shelter.

### Gentle Hills of GITMO

But females have to stay in what GITMO calls its Navy Exchange Motel, a little cluster of quonset huts divided into rather bare, small rooms (\$1.50 a night) and larger spreads with refrigerator (\$2.50 a night), complete with maid service. No phone. No way to be reached except by urgent knocking on the door. No way to reach anybody else except to unlock the door of a "lounge" building nearby and use the Motel's lone telephone.

### Big Bottleneck

Transportation is the big bottleneck. To keep tabs on journalists, the PIO offers to "take" you anywhere you must go in an official car, but only by pre-arrangement. When you need a ride — and you usually do over the miles which separate GITMO installations — you have only to phone and wait from one to three hours for transportation. Navy personnel can rent cars for \$2 a day and gas, but I was informed that this would not be permitted me — something about the taxpayers, the government, the regulations.

With insistence, and a special driver's

**Demonstrators (Cont. from pg. 1)**

each, being shown through the headquarters by the uniformed girl guides.

Slightly wild-eyed delegates who dashed up from the well of the Council chamber for a closer look at the goings-on helped to swell the crowd attracted from nearby offices by the tumult.

Demonstrations and even violence are no novelty at Security Council sessions during debates on controversial topics. The latest was mainly distinguished by its duration, its extent, and the introduction of weapons possibly most aptly described as unorthodox.

Probably the most serious wound inflicted was that received by one of the guards who staggered out with blood streaming down his face — from the spike heel of a shoe with which one of the women demonstrators had attacked him. The same woman was glimpsed

**Main Dining Room Schedule**

On Thurs., March 9, Wed., March 15 and Fri., March 24, part of the main dining room will be occupied by the Society of Magazine Writers, Mystery Writers of America and New York Enthusiasts, respectively. Members planning to have dinner then will be served at one end of the room.

later shrieking in the hall, "He struck me!"

Indications were that one of the participating groups had organized the riots, with previous knowledge of what to expect. They rushed the doors to the spectators' gallery in sufficient numbers to overwhelm the guards, and someone had cut the line to the house phone immediately outside, which would normally have been used to summon reinforcements. The ruse was successful only momentarily, two other extensions farther down the corridor remaining in service. More guards swarmed in from all parts of the headquarters area.

While the invaders were successful in touching off the disorder obviously planned, others who promptly joined in appeared to have no connection with them. Some of the more hysterical performers easily qualified for membership in the "lunatic fringe" — like the woman who flung herself headlong onto the floor and lay screaming, "Bring me back my mother!" A few others were afflicted with "the shakes", whether from nerves or from narcotics seemed questionable.

The ruling by Sir Patrick Dean of Britain, this month's president of the Council, barring the public from the gallery on a day-to-day basis during the debate on the Congo brought a sigh of relief from the press and others.

**Gal Reporter (Cont. from pg. 4)**

test to get the requisite GITMO license (you have to learn new rules, such as no passing anytime, anywhere), a correspondent could probably demand to rent a car. The doors fall off and the motor conks out occasionally, but some of the time, you get where you have to go. If the Navy refuses, get a bicycle. Anything is better than to be marooned at the Motel

The PIO office closes at 5 on the button, so you take your own typewriter. In working hours, all their machines are occupied. After hours, you can't get in. I borrowed a portable from The Trading Post, a rental service and swap shop run by some of GITMO's altruistic ladies.

They are a gay bunch, raising about 1,200 American kids inside the 24-mile fence which separates the base from Cuba proper. They're not scared because they are convinced that the "Navy takes care of its own." They're not tense because they have lots of maid service. They're not lonely because they have plenty of partying and all kinds of clubs and welfare groups. And they're all tan, because GITMO has six swimming pools and two rocky-rough beaches.

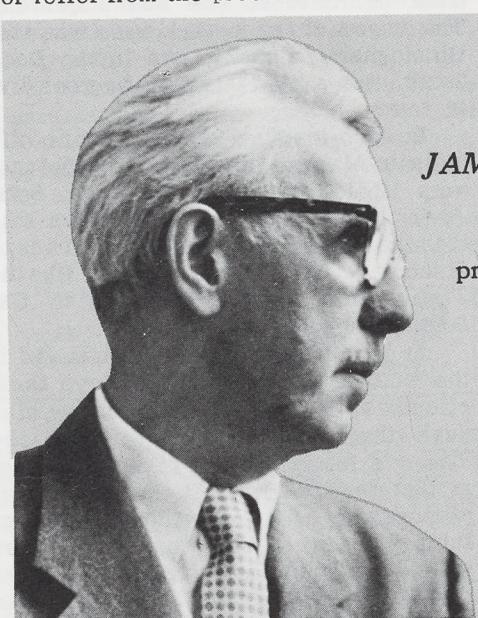
As the lieutenant said, take your bathing suit.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

OPC operations for the month of January 1961 resulted in a loss of \$1358.86 in contrast to a profit of \$1689.57 for the same month in 1960. Profit for the first 9 months of fiscal year is \$2961.51. Cash assets totalled \$85,163.81. Of this amount \$27,707.39 was in our checking account; \$55,571.42 in savings accounts and \$1,885.00 on hand. Members' equity stood at \$140,-595.14. WILL OURSLER Ass't Treasurer

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

The Library acknowledges receipt of the following books: 'Guide to the Caribbean Islands' by John Wilhelm (McGraw-Hill); Guide to Puerto Rico & the Virgin Islands' by Evalyn Marvel (Crown Publishers); 'The Life of a Burma Surgeon' by Gordon S. Seagrave, M.D., with introduction by Chester Bowles (reprint, Ballantine Books), donated by Gilbert Jonas; 'The Vanishing Swastika' by Christopher Emmet & Norbert Muhlen (Henry Regnery Co., soft cover); 'The People Win Through' by U Nu; 'So You're Going to Paris' by Clara E. Laughlin; and 'Skyline', a reporter's reminiscence of the '20s, Gene Fowler's last book (Viking Press).



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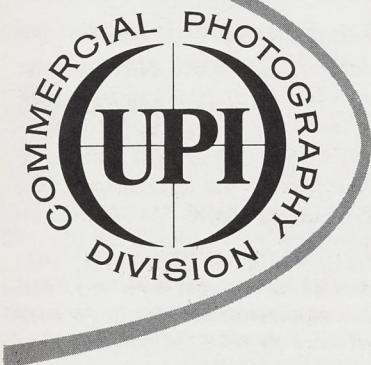
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## THREAT TO FREEDOM OF REPORTING

*This story of Alabama and the New York Times was written for the International Press Institute's IPI Report by James Clayton, Washington Post court reporter.*

A LEGAL struggle that has overtones for the entire press of the United States is being fought by the *New York Times* in a dozen libel suits filed against it in the State of Alabama.

The *Times* has already lost one of the cases in the trial court and has been defeated twice on the one legal issue of national importance which is involved. It is carrying those defeats to higher courts. But there are broader and non-legal issues in these cases, and on these the *Times* and most American newspapers have been silent.

The suits were filed against the *Times* in two groups. One group complains of an advertisement which the *Times* published in February, 1960. The ad was placed by a group of nationally-known leaders who were soliciting funds to aid the Rev. Martin Luther King, a leader of the desegregation movement. The other group of suits came as a result of two stories written about Birmingham, Ala., by *Times* Reporter Harrison Salisbury in April, 1960.

The import of the ad was that the Rev. King was not likely to receive a fair trial in Alabama. (He was acquitted.) The import of the news stories was that Birmingham, a steel town in the Deep South, was a city in which Negroes live in terror.

In each instance, several public officials in Alabama are contending that they were libeled by the publications. Some American newsmen, however, have said that the primary motive of the suits is to discourage Northern newspapers like the *Times* from sending reporters to the South to cover racial incidents.

In Birmingham, attorneys involved in the suits claim that they believe their clients have been injured, but one also says that they are out "to teach the *Times* a lesson." The lesson, he says, is that newspapers must report the news responsibly. Some Northern newsmen think he is saying that newspapers should report the news the way he likes to see it reported. Some Southerners, particularly those who are staunch segregationists, insist that the Northern press distorts racial news. Many of them aim their complaints at the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, two of the North's most respected newspapers.

While Birmingham officials insist their actions are aimed solely at stopping these "distortions," a reporter for the *Washington Post* recently wrote that he found that some citizens of Birmingham are now unwilling to talk to him openly and that he was suspect there as soon as it was discovered he was a

Northern newsmen....

The major legal issue in these cases is whether the *Times* can be sued in Alabama courts. When the rules of procedure developed in American courts years ago, a citizen of one state could be sued only in the state or federal courts in which he lived. When the law gave corporations the status of citizens for legal purposes, the same rule applied.

In recent years, however, the rule has been liberalized so that corporations can now be sued in any state in which they "conduct business." There have been no court decisions on how much business a newspaper must be "conducting" within a state in order to be subject to suit there. The *Times* says it was not doing business in Alabama when it sent a reporter there to write about Birmingham. A lower federal court has ruled that it was and that it must stand trial in Alabama for what he wrote. A state court has said it must stand trial there for the contents of the advertisement because it solicits ads and sells papers in Alabama. If these decisions stand an appeal, and most lawyers give them a 50-50 chance of being upheld, the libel problems facing American publishers will be greatly increased.

The primary purpose of the original rule was to avoid the dangers of submitting a defendant's case to a jury which was hostile to him because of sectional bias. A newspaper charged with libel, for example, was thought to be assured of a fairer trial if it were tried by a jury selected in the area in which it normally published.

The change in the law away from this doctrine came in large part because of the development of big corporations. Those injured by a corporation were often too poor to pursue the corporation into another state in order to file suit. (A newspaper, of course, is a corporation.) The other element leading to the change was the thought that sectional bias in the United States was decreasing as the nation became more united by rapid transportation and communications systems.

Perhaps the first of the libel suits tried against the *Times* in Alabama illustrates the wisdom of the original rule. In that case, a jury returned a verdict of \$500,000 in favor of a man who was not named in the advertisement and who testified during the trial that the advertisement had not injured him or his reputation. The damages were awarded by the jury, not for compensation to the man for publishing the ad....

If the higher courts decide that the *Times* can be sued in Alabama and other newspapers can be sued in any state into which they send a reporter, some news executives are afraid that publishers will curtail their news coverage rather than take the chance of facing libel suits away from home.

## PEOPLE & PLACES

**TRAVELING:** Kenneth Anderson, ed. of Today's Health, AMA 840,000-circulation consumer mag, was in NY for a week interviewing OPCers for story ideas . . . Amy Vanderbilt is off gathering copy in Caribbean & LatAm for her column which is widely syndicated in that area, running in Spanish & Portuguese. Will visit papers in Caracas, San Domingo & San Juan — to return March 5 . . . Ruth Hagy Brod left last week for 10-day Florida vacation . . . Bert Covit is in Tahiti for indefinite stay to write & publish 3rd edition of his 'Official Directory & Guide Book For Tahiti, under sponsorship of local French gov't & the Syndicat d'Initiative. Also has writing assignments from Travel mag, ASTA Travel News, several news media & newspapers. All OPCers & friends are invited for at least one drink & a hula, address % General Delivery, Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia' . . . Bill Ulman of William A. Ulman Associates Inc., just back from Argentina, Peru, Ecuador & Colombia — now off to Turkey & Iran for full politico economic surveys.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Jack Harrison Pollack's 2-parter on extrasensory perception in Holland running in Feb. 19 & 26 This Week Mag. (Part 1 — 'Holland's Incredible Mind Readers'; Part 2 — 'How ESP Is Used to Fight Crime') . . . James H. Winchester has article entitled 'New Supersonic Airliners Will Fly 35 Miles A Minute!' in March issue of Mechanix Illustrated mag. . . . George Kent has 2 articles in March Reader's Digest which also includes pieces by Lin Root, Tom Mahoney & Lester Velie. Les authors 'Chinese Red Star Over Latin America'.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Ben Zwerling has joined Doherty, Clifford, Steers & Shenfield Agency as PR acct. exec. on Florida Development Commission . . . Benjamin Fine, NANA, appointed Dean of the School of Journalism & Communications, Point Park Junior College, Pittsburgh. (School opens Sept. 1). He will continue his syndicated weekly 'Spotlight on Education' for NANA . . . As of April 1, Stahley Thompson Associates will join American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc., to become the company's production dept. Thompson will be v.p. in charge.

**RADIO-TV:** Irving Jacoby created the photo essays in 'The Sounds of America' from Disneyland, shown Feb. 17 on NBC-TV's Bell Telephone Hour.

**RECENT LECTURES:** Milton Enzer was one of the 2 discussion leaders for 1961 General Management Workshop Seminar on PR, conducted by American Management Assn., Jan. 25-27 at its NY hq. William C. Lengel, ed-in-chief of Fawcett World Library, has novelette en-



Paul Sanders, U.S. correspondent of *Het Parool*, Amsterdam newspaper, received the Order of Orange-Nassau from The Netherlands' UN Ambassador Carl W. A. Schurmann. Award, made at an OPC reception, marked Sander's 50 years in journalism.

## PLACEMENT

### Europe

No. 468 Adv. exec. for 3 Eng. lang. general consumer European weeklies. To mastermind local adv. procurement & supervise foreign sales offices. Pref. answers from those already in Europe, as interviews will be held in Germany. New York City

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Stephen Korsen  
Chairman, Placement Committee

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FOR RENT: New Canaan contemporary, 5 bedrms, 3 baths, 6 acres. Complete privacy. Near station & Parkway. Long lease. Tele: Woodward 6-0680.

titled 'Emergency' optioned for B'way production by Eddie Dowling.

One of Hal Boyle's columns was reprinted in the 'Prison Mirror,' publication of Minnesota State Penitentiary. It deals with remarks that policemen get tired of overhearing. When the copy came to Boyle's desk, 3 men tried but couldn't restrain him from commenting, 'now that's what I call a good captive audience....'

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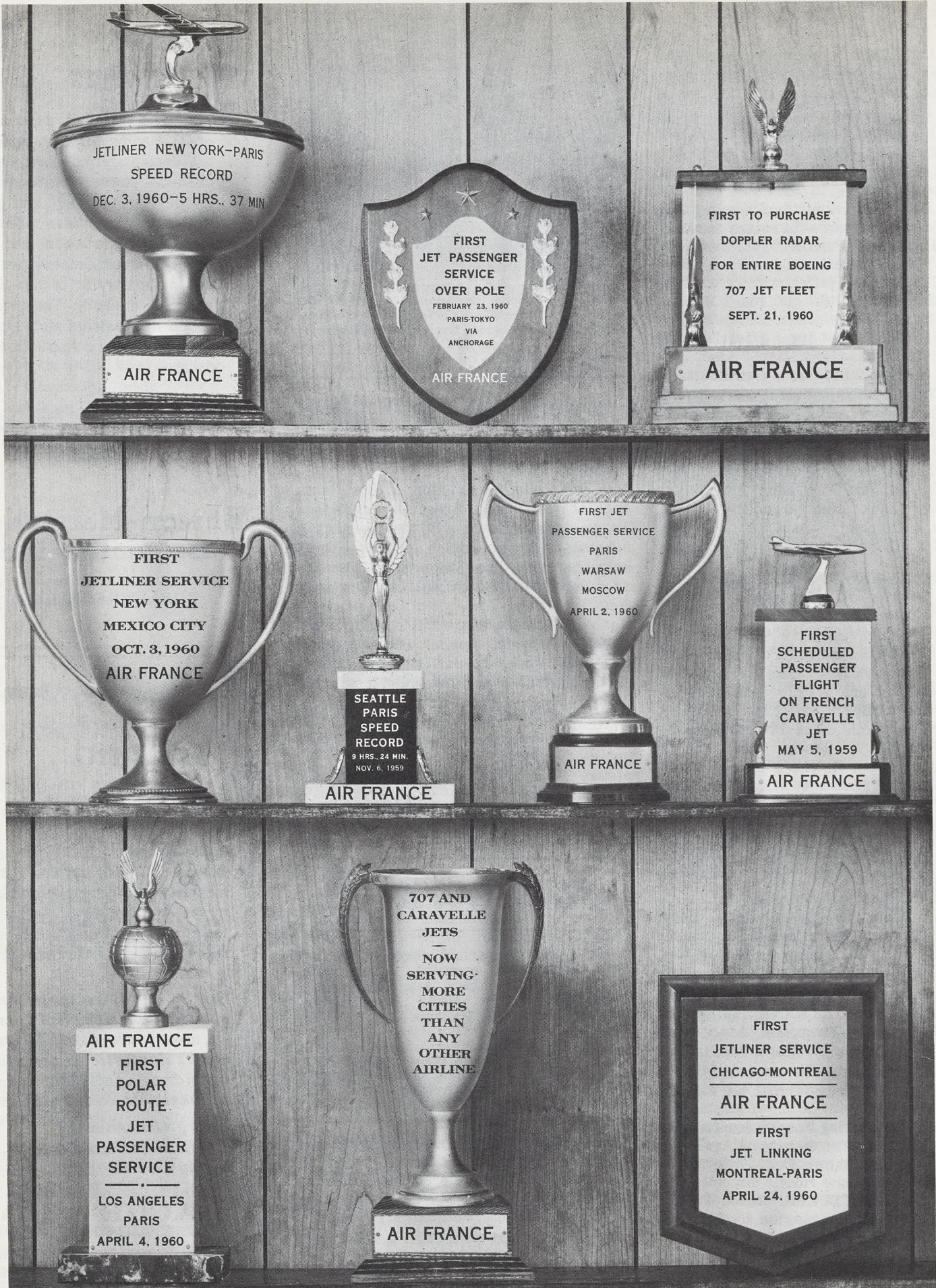
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